

¶ A BOOKE
 of certaine Canons,
 concerning some parte
 of the discipline of
 the Church of
 England.

In the yeare of our Lord.

1571.

AT LONDON
 Printed by Iohn Daye,
 dwelling ouer Al-
 dergate.

¶ Cum gratia & Priuilegio
 Regie Maiestatis.



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¶ Here foloweth in this booke some certayne articles of the holy ministerie, and of the offices of the Church, fully agreed vpon by Matthew Archbyschoppe of Caunterburie, Primate of all England, and Metropolitane, and all other Bishops of the same Prouince, which were partly present in person, and partly subscribed by the handes of their Proctors, in a Synode begonne at London in the Church of S. Paule the thirde daye of Aprill. 1571.



All Byschoppes shall diligently teach the Gospell, not onely in their Cathedrall Churches to which they gouerne, but also indifferently in all the Churches of euery of their diocesse, where they shall thynke it most nedeful.

And principally they shall exhorte their people to the readyng, & hearing of the holy scriptures, and that they come together in times appointed, euery man to his owne Church, and that they geue eare diligently to the preachers of the Gospel, and that both they doe heare reuerently the godly prayers, which shall be spoken by the minister, and also praye themselves with hym, and that they bee partakers of the heauenly mysteries, as they be now godly or-

Detined and lawfully in our churches by the authoritie and commaundemente of the whole Realme.

Euery Bishop before the first daye of September next, shall call vnto him the publique preachers, such as shall be in his owne docesse, and shall require againe of them, their licences of preaching, which they haue signed with any autenticall seale, which they shall reteyne with themselves, or els abolish. After prudent choise made of them, he shall geue readilys agayne new licences to them whom he shall finde able to that great office, in respecte of their yeares, doctrine, iudgement, honestie of lyfe, modestie and grauitie: and yet so that they first subscribe to the articles of Christian religion, publickly approued in the Synode, and that they make promise willingly to maintain, and defend that doctrine, which is contayned in them, as most agreeable to the veritie of gods worde.

The bishop must very diligently consider what maner of men he do admit into his householde: for it chaunceth sometymes where this foresight is not bled, that wicked men and enemies to the true religion, vitious men, and corrupte in all their life, yea, and men boyde of grace, be admitted. Whereby the aduersarie will soone take occasion to speake euill.

The Bishops seruantes shall so modestly & orderly apparel themselves, in euery part of their garments, that they do not offend their brethren whom Saule calleth of the householde of fayth.

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The Bishop shall laye his handes on none henceforwarde, but such as haue bene trayned by in good letters, eyther in the vniuersitie, or some other inferior schole, or that doth vnderstand the Latine tongue competently, and hath bene well exercised in the holy scriptures: nor yet on any, except he be of that lawfull age which is appointed by the statute and lawe: nor except his lyfe & honest behauiour, be commended by the testimony of graue and godly men; and such as are well knowne vnto the byshop: nor on any that hath bene brought by in husbandrie, or some other base and handicraft labour: nor on any, but such as haue some title (as they call it) whereby he may liue; & by Gods sufferaunce, he become blinde, or fall into greuous sicknesse of the bodye, or into a continuall & languishing disease: nor except he will exercise the holpe ministerie within hys owne diocesse: nor at any other tyme, but whē it shall chaunce, that some place of ministracion is voyde in the same diocesse. And he shall admitte no straunger, nor any that he knoweth not, either to the profites of any benefice, or to ecclesiasticall ministerie, except he bying wyth hym that bishops letters of commendacions, which they cal letters dimissories, out of whose diocesse he came.

The bishop shall not graunt vnto any man the next, or second, or thirde aduouson, (as they cal it) of any prebend or benefice belonging vnto him: for those aduousons are farre fro good

doynge and christian charitie: neither shall he ratifie and confirme the leases of any profits or renewes of any parsonage, or ecclesiasticall benefice, for terme of many yeares, in any wise.

The bishop shall suffer no man to be occupied in the ministracion of the church, whiche calleth himselfe by the idle name of a reader, not having receyued imposition of handes.

Every Archbishop, and bishop shall have in his house The holy Bible in the largest volume, as it was lately printed at London, and also that full and perfect history, which is intituled Memorabiles of Martyrs, and other suche like booke, fit for the setting forth of religion. These booke must be placed either in the hall, or in the great chamber, that they may serue to the use of their seruantes, and of straingers.

Deanes of Cathedrall Churches.



De herie same booke, which we spake of last, every Deane shall cause to be bought, and to be bestowed in his Cathedrall Church, in such conuenient place, that the vicars and peticanōs, and other ministers of the Church, as also straungers and forieners may easilie come vnto them, and read thereon.

The Deane, and every chiefe Residentarie, whom

whom they call the dignities of the Church, shall buye the same bookes: euerie one for his owne familie, and shall lay them in some fitt place, either in the hall, or in the chamber.

The Deane & his prebendaries shall preache the worde of God diligentlie, not onely in the cathedrall Church where they liue, but in other churches also of the same Dioces, and especiallie in the same places whence they receiue yearly reuenues and profites: which if they do not, they shall be punished according to the discretion of the byshop.

No Deane, nor Archdeacon, nor Residentarie, nor master, nor warden, nor head of any colledge, or cathedrall church, neither presider, nor Rector, nor any of y^e order, by what name soeuer they be called, shall hereafter weare the Graye Amice, or any other garment which hath bene defiled with y^e like superstition. But euery one of them in their churches shal weare onely that linnen garment, which is as yet retained by the Queenes commaundement, and also hys schollers hooide, according to euerie mans calling, and degree in schole.

Euerie Deane shalbe resident in his cathedrall Church, foure times a yeare at the least. And shall continue there, by the space of a moneth euery time (if he may possible) in preaching the word of God, and keeping good hospitalitie, except he shall be otherwise letted with weightie, and vrgent causes. which causes he shall at euery such time, declare vnto his

8 Deanes of Cathedral churches.

ordinarie. when he is come to his church, he together with his prebendaries resident, shall forsee that the statutes of his church, if they be not contrary to the wordes of God (as many are), and that the statutes of this realme what soever, concerning ecclesiasticall order, and all Injunctions, either set forth by the Queenes Maiestie, or enioyned by the bishop in his visitation of the same church, be diligently observed. Moreover the Deane and Residentaries shall endeavour, as much as lieth in the, that the peticanons or vicars, and other ministers of their church, (lest they live idely and unprofitably in slothfulness, and geue themselves to vnlawfull gaming,) be constrained to the study of the holy Scriptures, and that every one of them have the newe testament, not onely in Latine, but also in English.

The Deanes and Residentaries shall see that there be no other forme observed in singing, or saying prayers, or in the administration of the Sacramentes, but onely that which is sette forth, and prescribed in the booke of Common Prayers; neither shall they suffer any straunger to preach vnto the people, excepte the Queenes Maiestie, or the Archbishop of the same Province, or the Bishop of the same Dioces, haue graunted him licence thereunto. And if such a Preacher so allowed, eyther by the Queenes Maiestie, or by the Archbishop or bishop, shall in his Sermon publishe any doctrine eyther strainge, wycked, or disagree-
able

able with the word of God: or with the Articles of our Religion, agreed vpon in the Conuocation house (which no doubt are consonant to the Scriptures) or with the booke of Common Prayers: the Deane, or the Residentes shall assoone as may be, geue notice of the same to the Bishop by theyr letters; subscribed also with some of theyr handes which heard him preach: that he may determine on the matter, as he shall see good.

Archdeacons.



Every Archdeacon shall haue in his house both the other bookes, and nannely those which are entitled, Monumentes of Martyrs.

Every Archdeacon which hath authoritie to visite, eyther by common law, or by prescription, shall visite his territory once every yeare in his owne person: and he shall not substitute any to be his Officiall, but such a one as hath bene brought vp in the vniuersities, and hath studied the ciuill law, and is of the full age of xxiiij. yeares, being able not onely in learning, but also in grauetie, and modestie to discharge that office.

Archdeacons, and their substitutes (whom they call Officials) shall call the clergie to accompt in theyr visitations, how much euery one of them hath profited in the studie of Scripture, and shall geue vnto so many of them, as

B. i.

haue

haue not taken the degree of a maister of Arte vpon them in the vniuersitie, some parte of the new Testament to be learned without booke, and at the next Synode shall compell them to make repetition thereof: and they shall detecte vnto the Bishop, such as are eyther Rabburne, or negligent herein.

When the visitation is finished, the Archdeacon shall signifie vnto the Bishop, whome he hath founde in euery Deanery, so furnished with learning and iudgement, that they may be thought worthy to instruct the people in sermons, and to rule and gouerne others. Of these the bishop may chuse some, whome he wil haue rurall Deanes.

Archdeacons shall straightly and seuerely punish all offenders, & not winke at their faultes, or suffer any man to escape unpunished, who is known to haue offended.

Archdeacons shall haue a speciall care, that the monumentes of their actes, and doings be saythfully and safely preserved: and shall once euery yeare bring to their bishop, all the originall copies of such testaments, which shalbe proued before them the yeare before, that they may be preserved by the bishops Register. They shall write out the copies of the same Testaments to their owne vse, if they will.

Chauncellors, Commissaries, II

and their Officials.



Every Chauncelloz, Commissary and officiall, shalbe learned in the ecclesiasticall and ciuil lawes, and such one as is twenty and six yerres olde, and hath taken some degre in the scholes for learninge sake, and is reasonably well practised in course of law, touching whose lyfe and manners, no euill reposte be heard. Besides, every one of these either shall be in the ministerie, or if he be not, yet shall he be well affected, and zealously bent toward religion, and such he shall openly and freely shew himselfe, and before he enter his office, he shall take an othe of the authoritie and supremacy of the Prince, and also shall subscribe to the articles of religion allowed in the conuocation of bishops.

None of these, neyther Chauncelloz, Commissary, nor Officiall shal proceede in examination of matters vnto the sentence of excommunication, but onely in causes of instances. In matters of correction, they shall doe all other things which lawfully they may, and are wont to be done.

But the sentence of excommunication they shall leaue onely to the Bishoppe, which eyther he himselfe shall pronounce, or shall commit the pronouncing therof to some graue man, which is in the ministerie. After that he hath geuen sentence, he shall also adde for a warnyng and terroz to the people, a certaine order of wordes,

B. ij.

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which after shalbe shewed: and also shall cause some like instrument, which shalbe vsed in signifying the excommunication to the people, to be wrotten out, and sent to euery minister in their churches, that they may haue it in readines to occupie, if neede require. But the penance enioyned, neither Chauncelloz, Archdeacon, Officiall, nor Commissarie, shal alter. That authoritie, for many weighty causes is reserued onely to the Byshop, or if he shall appoint any other, by speciall commaundement for that purpose.

No ecclesiasticall iudge, of what place or degree soeuer he be, shall absolue any that is excommunicated, at his owne house, or otherwise in priuate houses, but onely openly, and in the consistory.

Chauncelloz, Officialles, Commissaries, shall doe their endeouour, that all others which are vnder their iurisdiction, do their dutie. Especially, that Parsons, Vicars, and ministers of Churches may painefully be occupied in the scriptures, that they provide them bookes fitte for their degree and profession, that whosoener hath not proceeded maister of arte, buie for hym selfe two bookes of the new testament, the one translated in Latine, the other in Englishe, that euery one of them learne without booke, that taske of Scriptures which is enioyned hym, either by ordinary ecclesiasticall iudge, or by some other, whome for his trust & painefulnes the byshop wyll rather chuse: that they

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obserue the orders, and rites prescribed in the booke of common prayers, aswell in reading the holy scripture, and saying of prayers, as in ministration of the sacraments: that they neither diminish, nor adde any thing, neither of the matter, nor of the manner: that they be haue themselues honestly, and goe modestly and comely in sober apparell appointed in the booke of aduertisements: that, if they haue a familie, and haue no wife, they keepe no other woman at their house, but either their mother, sister, or neece by brother or sister: but if they liue vnmarried, and haue no wyues, let them not boorde in any Tauerne or Alehouse, but in some honest house in the same parish, where they may liue without suspicion: that they play not at Dice, cardes, or other vnlawful games: that they vse their bowe and shaftes onely, and that to refreshe their myndes, modestly, and in due time, that they be not let from doing their dutie, or studie of the holy Scripture.

They shall take heede also, that no Parson, Vicar, or Curat, serue any where, either in Chappell, or other place of prayer, or say common seruice in any priuate mans house, except the Byshop graunt him licence by his owne instrument & subscription of his hand: & that no Parson, Vicar, or Curate serue any more then one Church or Chappell in one day.

Every minister of the Church, before he enter that holy function, shall subscribe to all articles of Christian religion, which were agreed

14 Chauncellors, Commissaries

upon in the conuocation, and whe resouer the Byshop shall commaunde, shall declare his conscience openly to the people, what he thinketh of those articles, and the whole doctrine. And he being once admitted into the holy mystery, shall from thenceforth neuer depart fro it, nor shall vse himselfe as a laye man, eyther in apparell, or in any part of his life.

Every Parson, Vicar, or Curate shall yearly before the twenty day after Easter, exhibite to the byshop, or to his Chauncelloz or Commissary, the names and surnames of his parishoners, as well men as women, (of those I say) which beyng fourtene yeares of age, come not to the holy Communion, (as by the statutes & ecclesiasticall lawes of this Realme they are bound) & such as refuse to be examined by the minister of the Church, in learning the Catechisme, and articles of Christian religion: and what parentes or maisters neglect to sende their children or seruantes to Church, at the tymes appointed, to heare and learne the same Catechisme. They shall suffer none to undertake for an Infant at Baptisme, except he haue receaued the Communion, and haue bene partaker of the holy mysteries, and he shall admit none to the partaking of the Sacrament, which hath not learned the Catechisme, and articles of the fayth.

Every sonday and holiday, the parsons, vicars, and curates, shall come to the Church so timely, and conueniently in due season, that the parish.

parishioners hauing done their busines, may come thether to their children & seruantes. And there they shal reuerently, (as it is fit) & godly say or sing the holy seruice, so plainly, so manifestly, & distinctly, that the people may heare & vnderstand, what is sayd or song, & therof receaue comforte and commoditie. The lyke reuerence and godlynes they shal obserue in celebratyng the most holy Sacramentes, so that they turne not to superstition, or worshipping, or Idolatrie. But if that in tyme of the holy Communion there shalbe no sermon, they shal on the booke in the pulpit read some one, or other of those homelies, which we haue to that end set forth before. In the meane tyme they shal exhorde the people, to come diligently to Church, that they attentiuely heare that which is read and sayd, and that all the tyme thereof, they vse themselves reuerently and modestly: and least the godly may be offended thorough wantonnes and lightnes, boorde of religion, they shal take herde that young men, especially countrey men (whose nature is more prone to the contempt of godlines and to disorder) neither ring bells, neither walke in þ church, nor haue idle talke together, nor by laughing, or uoyce, or vnbonest testyng, either let the minister, or offende the people.

They shal admonish the people to come oftner to þ holy Communion, & that before they prepare themselves with a perfect minde, as it is fit. And that all may vnderstand, what dutie they owe

to God, what dutie to the prince, whom they ought to loue & reuerence as the vicar of God, what they owe to the lawes, what to the magistrates, what to their brethren, what to the people of God: they shalbe ready in the church straight after noone, every sonday & holy day, & there at the least they shall read two houres, and teach the Catechisme, and therein shall instruct, all their flocke of what age or degree soeuer, not onely maydens and children, but also the elder, if neede be. But especially they shall warne young folkes, not onely men, but also women, that it is provided by the lawes, that none of them may either receaue the holy Communion, or be married, or undertake for a child in baptisme, except before they haue learned the principles of Christian religion, and can fittly and aptely aunswere to all the partes of the Catechisme.

But if the parsons, vicars, curates, either can not preache, or haue not receaued licence to preache of the byshop, yet they shall teach children to read, to write, and know their dutie, toward God, toward their parentes, and all others: and if they perceauie any of them to be of that disposition, that by teachyng and instruction they may attayne to the knowledge of learnyng, they shall counsell their parentes, to set them to schole, that beyng endewed with learnyng, they may one day become fitt for the holy ministerie of the mighty god: but whom they perceauie to be duller, and not disposed to lear-

Churchwardens & syde men. 17

learnynge, to see them set to some other science, or to husbandrie.

They shall also warne their parishioners, that for great and weightie causes it was appointed in the cōuocation by the Reuerend father in God, Matthew Archbysshop of Canteburie, and the other bishops, that children may not, without consent of the parentes, and that no yong man hath power in hym selfe to contract mariage, befoze he be xvi. yeares of age, and no mayde befoze she be xiiii. yeares old.

Churchwardens and syde men.

Churchwardens accordyng to the custome of euery parishe, shalbe chosen by the consent of theyr parishioners, and theyr minister: otherwise they shall not be churchwardens: neither shall they continew any lenger then one yeare in that office, except perhaps they be chosen againe. And all churchwardens once every yeare shal geue vp iust accounte of such money, as they haue receaued: and also particularly shall shewe, what coste they haue bestowed in reparations, and for the vse of the churche. Last of all goyng out of their offices, they shall truly deliuer vp to the parishioners, what soeuer money, or other ecclesiasticall thinges shall remayne, & be in their handes, that it may be redeliuered by them to the next churchwardens.

The churchwardens shall see, that the churches be diligently and well repayred with leade, tyle, lyme and glasse, that neither the minister, nor the people, either in the holy ministration and worshipping of God, or in celebratynge the heavenly mysteries, or in receauynge and hearing the Communion, be troubled with tempestuous weather. But especially they shall looke vnto, that in euery metynge of the congregation peace be well kept: and in all visitations of byshops and archdeacons, they shall truly and personally present, and name all those, which rudely behaue the selues in the church, or whiche by vntymely ringynge of bells, by walkynge, by talkynge, or noyse shall let the minister or preacher.

Churchwardens shall see, that the churches be kept cleane & reuerently, & they be not lothesome to any, either by dust, sande, or any filthynges. They shall also see, that the holy Bibles be in euery church in the largest volume (if it may conueniently be) such as were lately Imprinted at London: & the booke of commō prayers, that the holy Homelies, & the homelies which lately were witten agaynst rebellion, be in euery church. It is meete that these bookes be whole and cleane, not torne or foule in any wise, lest it breede irksomnes or contempte amongst the people. They shall see, there be a fayre ioyned table, which may serue for the administration of the holy Communion, and a cleane clothe to couer it: a conuenient pulpit, whence the heavenly

uenly doctrine may be taught. Moreover they
shal see, that all roodeloftes, in which wooden
crosses stode, & all other reliques of superstition
be cleane taken away, & the walles of the churches
be new whited, and decked with chosen
sentences of the holy Scripture, that by the
readyng and warnyng therof, the people may
be moued to godlynes. Last of all they shall see,
that in euery church there be a holy founte, not
a basen, wherein Baptisme may be ministred,
and it be kept comely and cleane.

They shal also warne tauerners, alehousekeepers
& victualers, which sel meat or drinke, that
they receiue none into their tauern or alehouse,
all tyme wherein either is preachyng, or comon
seruice. If any do contrary, vpon contempt or
flubburnes, they shall present both him, & them
whome he receaued, by name in the next visi-
tation. If any offend their brethren, either by
manifest adultery, or whozedom, or incest, or
drunkennes, or much swearyng, or baudy, or
burie, or any other vncleannes and wickednes
of life, let the churchwardens warne them bro-
therly and frendly, to amende. Whiche except
they doe, they shall by name shewe them to the
parson, vicar, or curat, that they may be war-
ned moze sharply and vehemently of them: and
if they continue so still, let them be dxiuen from
the holy Communion, till they be reformed.
And that all which liue vnchastly and loosely,
be punished by the seueritie of the lawes, ac-
cording to their desertes. The same church

wardens shall present those adulterers, whozmongers, incestuous, drunkardes, swearers, baudes, and blurers in the Byshops and Archdeacons visitations.

Churchwardens shall suffer no feasts, banquets, suppers, or common drinkings to be kept, in the church, neyther the belles to be rung superstitiously, either in þ feast of all soules, or the day after all saintes (which day not long since was kept holy for the soules of the dead) neyther at any time at all, whereas the custome of ringing, shall seeme to encline to superstition. They shall suffer ringing onely at those times, which are appoynted in the booke of aduertismentes, and to that onely vse, and after that onely order.

It shall not be lawfull to keep fayres, and common markets vpon the sonday: neyther on that day to put to death, and openly punish offenders cōdemned by the sentence of þ Judge.

They shall not suffer, that any of these light wanderers in markets, and pelting sellers, which carry about, and sell pinnes, points, and other small trifles, whome they call pedlars, to set out theyr wares to sale, either in the churchyardes, or in the porches of churches, or any where els, on holidayes or sondayes, whilest any part of the holy ministry is in doing, or any sermon is preached, neyther that beggars, or vagabōdes, which haue no certaine dwelling, abide eyther in the churchyearde, or in the church porch, all the time of seruice or preaching

ching: but shall commaunde them, eyther to come in, or to depart.

They shall also search and diligently enquire, if any of the parishioners eyther come not at all to church, or come later or slower, at þ times appointed by the lawes: and whom they shall finde so to offende, they shall punishe them, according to the appointing of the lawe. They shall marke whether all & euery of the parishioners come so often euery yeare to the holy communion, as the lawes & statutes do comaunde: and whether any straingers from other parishes, come more often and commonly to theyr church, and shall shew theyr curate of them, lest perhaps he admit them to the Lordes table amongst others, but shall sende them rather to theyr owne curates.

They shall receiue no parson, nor vicar, to the ministry of theyr church, but whome the Bishop shall allow by his institution, and by his mandate shall put in possession of that church. They shall receiue no curate, but him that by the letters, and seale of the Bishop is specially appointed for that church. But if the Parson, Vicar, or Curate, behaue himselfe otherwise in his ministerie, or that he read ill, darkly, and confusedly, or that he liue more loosely, and licentiously then is fitte for a man of that calling, and thereby great offence be taken: the churchwardens shall spedely present him to the Bishop, that by and by he may be punished, and amendment of his fault may follow.

And that the Bishop may vnderstande, what sermons are made in euery church of his dioces: the churchwardens shall see, that the names of all preachers, which come to them from any other place, be noted in a booke, which they shall haue ready for that purpose, and that euery preacher subscribe his name in that booke, and the name of the Bishop, of whome he had licence to preach.

Last of all, the churchwardens shall see, that all thinges be diligently obserued, which pertain to theyr offices, and that are conteyned in the Queenes iniunctions, and the booke of aduertisements, and that shall be set forth by the Archbishop or Bishop in euery their visitations, for the vse of the churches. But if any do rable vpon them, or goe to law with them, for doing theyr dutie, and detecting of offenders, that also they shall presente vnto the Bishop, that by his meanes & traуayll, they may moze easely be deliuered from that trouble.

Preachers.

No man shall openly preach in his parish, but being licensed by the Bishop, neyther hereafter shalbe so bolde, as preach out of his owne cure & church, except he haue obtained licence so to preach, eyther of the Queenes Maiestie, ouer all her realme: eyther of the Archbishop, through his prouince: or of the Bishop, in his dioces. And

no licence to preach shall hereafter stande in force, but that which hath bene obtayned after the last day of April, which was in the yeare, 1571. Preachers shall behaue them selues modestly and soberly in all their life.

But chiefly they shall take heed, that they teach nothing in their preaching, which they would haue the people religiously to obserue, and beleue, but that which is agreeable to the doctrine of the olde Testament, or the newe, and that which the catholike fathers, and ancient Bishops haue gathered out of that doctrine. And because those articles of Christian religion, agreed vpon by the Bishoppes, in the lawfull, and godly conuocation, and by the commaundement, and authoritie of our noble princeesse Elizabeth assembled and holden, vndoubtedly are gathered out of the holy bookes of the olde, and new Testamente, and in all pointes agree with the heavenly doctrine conteyned in them: because also the booke of common prayers, and the booke of the consecration of Archbishops, Bishops, Ministers and Deacons, conteyne nothing repugnant to the same doctrine, whosoener shalbe sent to teach the people, shall not onely in their preaching, but also by subscription confirme the authoritie, and truth of those articles. He that doth otherwise, or troubleth the people with contrary doctrine, shall be excommunicated.

In preaching they shall weare a very modest and graue garment, which may become,

and let forth the minister of God, and such as is prescribed in the booke of aduertisements. They shall require no money or rewarde for theyr preaching, but shall be content with meat and drinke, and playne provision, and one nightes lodging.

They shall teach no bayne, and olde wities opinions, no heresies, nor popish errors, disagreeing from the doctrine and fayth of Christ: neither any thing at all, whereby the rude people may be stirred vp to the desire of nouelties, or contention. But they shall alwayes teach that, which may make for edifying, and may bruite the hearers in Christian peace and lone.

Residences.



The absence of the shepheard from the Lordes flocke, and that careless negligence, which we doe see in many, and forsakyng of the ministerie, is a thing in it self to be abhorred and odious to the people, and pernicious to the church of God. Therefore we exhorte all pastors of churches, in the Lorde Iesu, that forthwith they returne euery one to theyr parishes, and diligently teach the gospell, according to theyr liuing to keep house, to helpe the poore by hospitalitie, and there to be resident euery yeare no lesse then lx. dayes.

Pluralitie.

It shall be lawfull for no man, of what degree, or order so euer he be, to haue at one time, any moze then two ecclesiasticall benefices: neither shall it be lawfull for any man at all, to gette two benefices, if they be distant moze then xxvj. miles.

. 26.

Of scholemaisters.

It shall not be lawfull for any to teach the Latine tounge, or to instruct children, neither openly in the scholes, neither priuately in any mans house, but whom the byshop of that diocesse hath allowed, & to whom he hath geuen licence to teach vnder the seale of hys office. And here we except, (for honours sake) the Loydes of the Parliament: but the byshop shall allow no scholemaister, nor ac- compt worthy of that office, but whom he shall finde in his iudgement to be learned, and worthy of that place, and whom he shall see commended by the testimony of godly men, touching his life and manners, and especially his religion.

Scholemasters shall teach no Grammer, but onely that, which the Queenes maiestie hath commaunded to be redde in all scholes through the whole realme, neither any other Latine Catechisme, then that which was set

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forth

forth, in the yeare. 1570. The which also, that is translated into English, we wil haue taught vnto childzen, that are ignoraunt of the Latin tongue.

All other bookes they shall teach, whereby the fulnes and synenes of the Latin & Greeke tongue may be learned, & those especially, which profite to the knowledge of Christ and godlynes. And once every yeare they shall signifie to the Byshop, what chosen scholers they haue of all theyr number, whiche are of that aptenes & so forward in learning, that there may be good hope, they will become fitt, either for the common wealth, or for the holy ministerie. By this hope the parêtres beyng allured, will more willingly kepe them at schole.

But chiefly they shall so order and frame the tounges of childzen, that they may pronounce openly, playnly and distinctly. And as often as any sermon shalbe, they shall either send them or bying them to church, that from their childhode they may be brought vp in godlines: & lest they should heare it negligently, at their return to schole, they shall call and examine euery one, what they haue learned out of that sermon: and that the myndes of childzen, may be the more styrrd vp to vertue and diligence, they shall rebuke the idle and sluggish, and shall prayse the attentive and diligent.

Patrones and Proprietaries.

The Bishop shall earnestly and diligently exhort patrons of benefices, to consider the necessities of churches and to have before their eyes the last day, and iudgement, and the tribunall seate of God. Therefore that they preferre no man to any ecclesiasticall living, but him which by doctrine, iudgement, godlines, honestie, and innocencie of life, is able to beare so heavy a burthen, & they do nothing therein, but uprightly, incorruptly & truly, & he shall professe that he will vse all honest, and lawfull meanes to search out the truth. But if, either in the presentation, or els after he shall perceiue any corruption, or simony to be committed any way, epyther closely, epyther directly, or indirectly, by him, or any other, epyther that money, or monyworth, or that any commoditie, or any part of the profites shoulde come vnto him: that he then will publishe and declare this wicked deed and simonie, not only in the cathedrall church, but also els where, to his shame and perpetuall reproch, & also thruste out that minister, whom he so wickedly presented, not onely from the office of a priest, whiche he unlawfully entred: but also from all ministry, and out of the whole dioces.

Humble petition must be made to the Quenes maiestie, that soine way by her leaue, and commaundement may be founde, that the

28 *Patrones and Proprietaries.*

chauncels of those churches, may speedely be repayed, which by impropriation are come vnto her, and that a yearely stipend may be appoynted for seruing the cure thereof: for now in many places, both the chauncels are sowly fallen downe, and the ministerie of the church is destitute because of the smalenes of the stipend.

The Bishop shall see, that a true inuentory and (as they call it) a terres, of all the landes, meadowes, gardens, orchardes, which belong to any parsonage, or vicarage, be taken by the betwe of honest men, and be layd by in his treasure of euidences, for a perpetuall memorie thereof.

The Bishop shall not suffer the farmer of any benefice, to haue any authorizty ouer the minister of God, that he may either admitte, or reject him. Neyther shall the minister take lesse, then x. poundes for his stipend.

All matrimonies, which any where are contracted within 5 degrees of consanguinitie, or affinity forbidden in the xviij. of Leviticus, shall be dissolued by the authoritie of the Bishop: but especially, if any man, his first wife being dead, shall take her sister, to wife: for this degree, by common consente, and iudgemente of learned men is thought to be forbidden in Leviticus.

It shall not be lawfull for any man, to marry within those degrees, which are forbidden in the table written, and published for that ende, by the reuerend father in God, the Archbishop of Canterburie.

¶ The forme of the sentence
of excommunication.



Rethren, because all we
whiche doe professe the
name of Christ Iesu, are
members of one body, &
it is meete that one me-
ber should feelee, and suffer the grief
of another member: by reason of
mine office I signify vnto you, that
A. B. is openly accused of adultery,
wherin, the reporte is, that he hath
liued wickedly, and filthily, to his
shame and infamy, and greuous of-
fence of the church of God: and for
that cause he is cyted to the bishops
consistory, that his notorious disor-
der may some way be punished. And
because the foresayd A. B. through
giltines of his wickednes, hath co-
temned to appeare at the day law-
fully named, and stubburnely hath
withdrawen him self from Justice,
and by his example hath harted o-
thers to the lyke stubburnes, ther-
fore, this I further warne you, that

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30. *The forme of the excommu.*

our byshop, by the name and authoritie of the most mighty God, hath excommunicated him from all company of the church of God, & hath cut him of as a dead member, from the body of Christ: In this state, & in so great danger of his soule is he at this tyme. S. Paul beyng taught by the inspiration of the holy ghost, commaundeth that we eschue the fellowship, & company of such men, lest we be partakers of the same wickednes. Yet, as Christian charitie warneth vs, because he will not pray for him selfe, neither vnderstandeth his danger, let vs all in his name pray vnto God, that once he may acknowledge his miserie and filthynes of lyfe, and may repent, and turne vnto God. For our God is mercifull, and can call them from death, that were fallen.

one by shop by the name and authority:
 name of the most mighty God, shall
 excommunicated him from all com-
 munion of the church of God, shall
 be punished as a dead member, from
 the body of Christ: And the same is
 in the great danger of his soul as he
 at this time, as from every tongue
 by the authority of the holy ghost,
 commandeth that we should the
 fellowship, company of such men,
 with the participation of the same
 sacraments, as a Christian should
 they ought to be, but since he will not
 pay for himself, neither for others,
 with his danger, let us warn his
 name, may God, that he be not
 any more, but let him be
 and let him be, let him be
 God is merciful and good, let him
 Amen.